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## **WHAT WE ARE IS WHAT WE GOT**

*by Robert A. Monroe*

Someone played a neat trick by putting a human mind in an animal body, then asking the combination to make a go of things in a strictly predator-controlled environment.

To make the challenge ever greater, handicaps were added in the body itself. It doesn't have the usual tools. No fangs to lock onto and rip up a prey. No claws to climb up trees or tear the guts out of a prospective meal. No tail to wrap around and hang from a tree limb or distract a hungry tracker. No four legs to run with speed and agility, just two that make balance a never-ending problem. Rigid, stiff-jointed limbs that are clumsy by comparison. And no insulating fur, just a bare skin that brings shivers in the cold and burns in the sun.

But it worked! We got smart. We had to if we were going to survive.

Yet try as we might through the millennia, we can't get rid of the animal drives. We set up rules and laws with penalties attached thereto, calling it a "civilizing" process. But those with super-smarts keep finding ways to win, so new laws are added. Without realizing it, leader-bosses show others how to take bites out of their fellow humans without killing. We've made an art and a science of predation, intraspecies variety.

So what have we on a global scale? Threats, coercion, conflicts, territorial battles, religious skirmishes, racial and sexual confrontations, do-gooders, wise guys, drugs for everything, billions of economic bites such as S&L scams, interest, the stock market, phony scarcity prices, emotional binges, heavy metal and rap, sex, food, drink, God and country, family, love, friends, all roiling and rioting with big boosts from so-called technology.

Well, you can stop growling, wailing, and grinding your teeth. Take a different overview. Be not only a participant, but an observer. What are you observing? Being human in its myriad forms is exactly the way it is supposed to be. The Human Learning Experience.

Besides, in your wildest imagining, can you conceive of any change taking place within the next century that will erase social, political, economic, religious, racial, and cultural barriers from human existence—where no laws or rules whatsoever are needed?

So live it up and have fun!

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